

City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2005

The City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee met on Thursday, July 21, 2005 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present: Greg Castano (Chair first half of meeting), Suzanna Banwell, Katherine Kelly, Steve Moody, Robert Patten, Michael Goodno (Chaired second half of meeting)

Members Absent: Larry Rubin, Laurie Kelly, Sanjay Grover

Staff Present: Suzanne Ludlow, Community and Government Liaison

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

2. Adoption of Minutes: vote on reading, vote on adoption

The minutes were reviewed and changes proposed for adoption at the next meeting.

3. Brief Announcements / Updates

CDBG Summit – Ideas:

Pinecrest – Guide to woodland connection? Light the second section? Improve path for walking.

Curb Ramps – Improve them anywhere in the City

Maple Avenue bike lane or share right of way

Maple Avenue Streetscape – decent sidewalks, parking that makes sense; area feels neglected.

New Hampshire Avenue – Sidewalks on west side north of Sligo Creek – Utility pole just past the bridge blocks the sidewalk.

(These ideas are for the CDBG funds – not a use for the \$25K in the City budget)

SRC Communications – What should be on the website? Steve Moody motioned to get an official presence on the web which passed unanimously. Include the FY06 Budget recommendations to the City Council, the PowerPoint, and memo on Philadelphia Avenue.

E-mail communications from chair after a meeting – send something out so members not present don't wait a month to learn from minutes what was said during the last meeting.

4. Action Items

Council Recommendations Input: Mayor/Council Members

Greg spoke with the Mayor who emphasized pedestrian safety, sidewalks, public outreach and to bring recommendations back to council.

(Mike Goodno chaired the meeting from this point)

Laurie spoke with Bruce Williams who suggested public outreach/events such as a table at festivals to inform the public such as about crosswalk laws, safe routes to school events w/children and parents, a sidewalk policy which would need more details, volunteers could inventory the sidewalks in lieu of a consultant, more enforcement and speed limit sign installations.

Katherine Kelly met with Doug Barry. He stressed resurfacing the slop on New Hampshire Avenue from Merwood to Sligo Creek Parkway. Traffic lights are antiquated on New Hampshire Avenue and he wants numerical countdowns, Lee Starkloff said that they were now standard. Restriping is also needed, silent rumble strips, and to make the area more attractive. Sidewalks need to be widened on the western side, as there are many telephone poles. Attention needs to be paid to the crossroads.

Suzanna met with Joy Austin-Lane. The area around the Community Center and at Maple and Philadelphia Avenues is key. Question about the sidewalk behind the community center – is it on the list for the Council? Does the repaving have to be done at the same time? What can be done by the school? Takoma Junction area (abuts 4 wards) suggests bringing Dan Burden back to bring people together (development at hospital and fire station can trigger improvement)

Katherine suggests a stakeholders meeting, then larger general public meeting such as a transportation summit. Joy brought up issue of red-light cameras and has been having conversations with vendors.

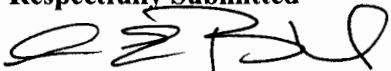
Bob Patton would like to be briefed by State Highway and traffic engineers regarding Takoma Junction so that the Committee can educate the public.

(Mike Goodno had relayed comments from Terry Seamens earlier via e-mail)

5. Adjourn

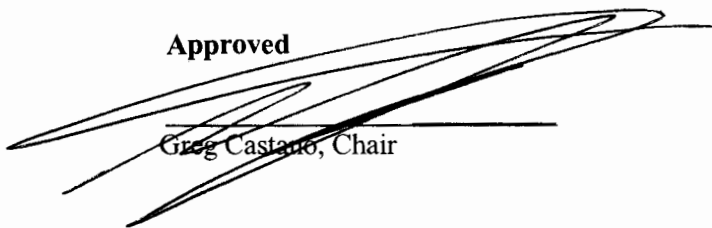
The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted



Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

Approved



Greg Castano, Chair